

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/177,610
Applicant : David M. Howard
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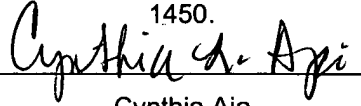
Docket No. : 12842-0006
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, please enter the following preliminary amendment.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.